

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1-28 (cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing a fracture of a bone, the method comprising:

coupling a bone plate to the bone with a first device screw inserted through the bone plate and into engagement with the bone on a first side of the fracture;

inserting a compression screw through a hole in the bone plate and into engagement with the bone on an opposite side of the fracture to adjust the position of the bone and surrounding tissue, wherein the hole is configured for ~~bone plate comprises an upper surface, a bone contacting surface, and at least one hole extending through the upper surface and the bone contacting surface that may interchangeably receive~~ receiving a locking screw ~~and a~~ and compression screws and, ~~wherein each hole~~ the hole includes a thread that makes a complete revolution around the hole;

removing the compression screw from the hole and engagement with the bone;
and

inserting a locking screw into the hole and into engagement with the bone ~~to fix the position of the bone plate~~, wherein threads of the hole completely surround threads of a head of the locking screw.

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30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29 ~~30~~, wherein the position of the bone and surrounding tissue may be adjusted by insertion of the compression screw up to two millimeters in more than one direction.

31. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the first device is a compression screw.

32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the first device is a locking screw.

33. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the first device is a provisional fixation pin.

34. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising, prior to inserting the compression screw, inserting one or more provisional fixation pins through the bone plate and into engagement with the bone.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising adjusting the one or more provisional fixation pins to draw a bone fragment to the bone plate.

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36. (New) The method of claim 35, further comprising providing a provisional fixation slot in the bone plate.

37. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising providing the hole with an unthreaded top portion and a threaded bottom portion.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the top portion is configured to engage the head of a compression screw and the bottom portion is configured to engage a threaded head of a locking screw.

39. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the top portion and the bottom portion are tapered at different angles.